

COMPENSION COMMUSSION COMMUSSION

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Liles Williams, Chairman Thomas A. Webb, Commissioner Beth H. Aldridge, Commissioner

Ray C. Minor, Executive Director

April 12, 2017

MEMORANDUM

As you may be aware, MWCC was merged into the State General Fund on July 1, 2016, as mandated by SB 2362. This has created numerous problems for the Commission especially in the area of budgeting. Since this change was implemented, the Governor has cut spending authority for General Fund Agencies four times during FY 17. These cuts reduced the Commission's spending authority by \$301,597 for FY 17.

The Commission's FY 18 appropriation bill, SB 2975, cut the Commission's spending request by \$779,007. As a result of these budget cuts, the Commission is forced to take action and reduce Commission expenses. Effective immediately, pursuant to Rule 18(h) of the Procedural Rules of the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission, the Commission is suspending payment and/or reimbursement of expert medical witness fees. This suspension covers the fees addressed in Rules 9(6) and 18(h) of the Procedural Rules of the Mississippi Workers' Compensation Commission.